

EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES

THE

# AVENGERS



AARON  
FIORELLI  
CURIEL





## Mike Pasciullo | 1972 - 2022

**With heavy hearts,** Marvel remembers our dear friend and colleague Mike Pasciullo, who passed away earlier this year.

Growing up, Mike found a passion for collectibles and trading cards. After diving into comics and becoming a Marvel expert, he went on to work for Fleer, where he became an important collaborator on art development and creative direction for Marvel's trading card sets, including now-classic sets like DC vs. Marvel, Amalgam, and many more.

Through his 25-plus years at Marvel, Mike went on to lead the company's marketing strategy across publishing, films, television, and more. His work included landmark campaigns for seminal Marvel comic book moments like *Secret Invasion*, *Marvel NOW!*, *Civil War*, and many others, and key contributions in establishing the vision behind Marvel Studios' early promotional strategy, engaging fans with unforgettable live events and promotions at conventions and beyond. After

marketing multiple MCU films, he brought that fan experience to Marvel Television's projects, including *Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*, *Marvel's Daredevil*, *Marvel's Luke Cage*, *Marvel's The Punisher*, *Marvel's Iron Fist*, *Marvel's Jessica Jones*, and *Marvel's The Defenders*, and Marvel's animation projects for Spider-Man, Guardians of the Galaxy, Avengers, and more.

Building on his knowledge of sports, Mike also helped weave together Marvel's fandom with sports fans through Marvel-themed game days, Marvel giveaways at sports events, and other Marvel activations across the country with Major League and Minor League sports teams that continue to this day.

Mike was beloved at Marvel, and he will be remembered for his kindness, creativity, optimism, and humor. His memory will always be with us, and he will live on forever within the Marvel family and beyond. ■



And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's mightiest heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born--to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand!

The demon Mephisto has been bedeviling the Avengers, traveling through time in an effort to unravel their history. The Avengers have embarked on their own journey through time, seeking to protect the very first Avengers in the prehistoric past. The Avengers' pursuit of Mephisto and his minion the Iron Inquisitor has thus far led them to various periods of history where they have been aided by their heroic predecessors. In the 1800s American West, the team caught up to Mephisto once more, and Starbrand attacked him directly as he teleported away to the next time period.



**HISTORY'S MIGHTIEST HEROES, PART FOUR**  
**"THE DAY OF THE MAYFLY"**  
By Jason Aaron & Ivan Fiorelli

|                                  |                                     |                                                |                                                          |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| COLOR ARTIST:<br>David Curiel    | LETTERER:<br>VC's Cory Petit        | COVER ARTISTS:<br>Javier Garrón & David Curiel | VARIANT COVER ARTISTS:<br>Humberto Ramos & Edgar Delgado |
| ASSISTANT EDITOR:<br>Martin Biro | ASSOCIATE EDITOR:<br>Annalise Bissa | EDITOR:<br>Tom Brevoort                        | EDITOR IN CHIEF:<br>C.B. Cebulski                        |

AVENGERS CREATED BY STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY





I DON'T SPEND A LOTTA  
TIME READING. MOSTLY  
BECAUSE IT TENDS TO  
INVOLVE *SITTING STILL*.

BUT THE *CELESTIAL* I LIVE  
INSIDE...SOMETIMES IT *TELLS*  
ME THINGS. THINGS IT THINKS  
I OUGHTA KNOW.

DID YOU KNOW THAT ONCE A  
DRAGONFLY TAKES FLIGHT, IT  
LIVES FOR ABOUT FOUR MONTHS?

OR THAT SOME BEES  
LIVE FOR ONLY A FEW  
WEEKS? TIME SPENT  
LITERALLY WORKING  
THEMSELVES  
TO DEATH, FOR THE  
SAKE OF THEIR HIVE.

OR HOW ABOUT THE *MAYFLY*,  
WHICH EMERGES FROM THE  
WATER WITH A GRAND TOTAL  
OF *24 HOURS* IN WHICH TO  
ENJOY BEING ALIVE?

THE *MAYFLY* DOESN'T  
EVEN BOTHER DEVELOPING A  
MOUTH...SINCE IT WON'T LIVE  
LONG ENOUGH TO GET TO EAT.

THAT'S IT,  
STARBRAND!  
*HIT ME!* WITH ALL  
THE POWER  
YOU'VE GOT!  
HA-HAA!

A FEW WEEKS  
AGO, I WAS  
SLEEPING  
IN A *CRIB*.

GUUGH!



**EARLIER.**

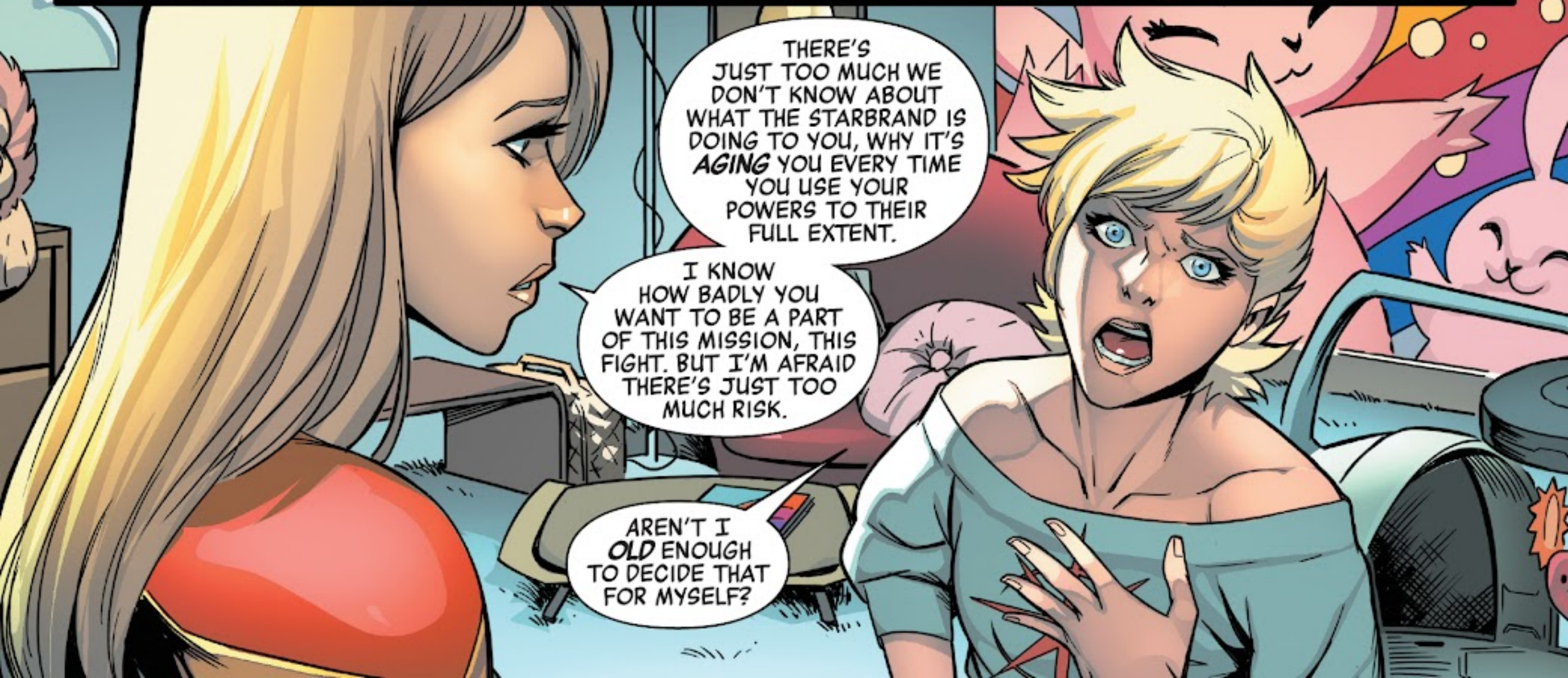


BRANDY...



THE AVENGERS VOTED, AND I'M SORRY...

...BUT YOU'RE NOT COMING.



THERE'S JUST TOO MUCH WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT WHAT THE STARBRAND IS DOING TO YOU, WHY IT'S AGING YOU EVERY TIME YOU USE YOUR POWERS TO THEIR FULL EXTENT.

I KNOW HOW BADLY YOU WANT TO BE A PART OF THIS MISSION, THIS FIGHT. BUT I'M AFRAID THERE'S JUST TOO MUCH RISK.

AREN'T I OLD ENOUGH TO DECIDE THAT FOR MYSELF?







**1047.**  
**THE VIKING AGE.**

AND THERE CAME A DAY, A DAY UNLIKE ANY OTHER, WHEN EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES FOUND THEMSELVES UNITED AGAINST A COMMON THREAT.

MURKFOOT, THE APEMAN MYSTIC, THE SASQUATCH SORCERER SUPREME.

BODOLF THE BLACK, THE STRONGEST VIKING THERE EVER WAS.

THEODOSIA SZARDOS, THE WITCH WHO WAS BURNED AT THE STAKE AND NEVER STOPPED BURNING, WHO BECAME A HUNTER OF WITCHES, POSSESSED BY A POWER FROM BEYOND THE STARS, THE PHOENIX WITCH OF WUNDAGORE.

NEHANDA, THE RENEGADE PANTHER, AND HER LOVER, PRINCESS GALE, THE OUTLAW ATLANTIAN IRON FIST.

THE WILD-HEARTED THOR, PRINCE OF THUNDER, WHO HAD ONLY RECENTLY HEFTED HIS HAMMER, MJOLNIR, FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME.

WITH ME! FOR MIDGARD!

THE MYSTERIOUS GRIZZLY RIDER OF CAHOKIA.

ON THAT DAY, THE AVENGERS WERE BORN. TO FIGHT THE FOE NO SINGLE HERO COULD--







**1924.  
HONG KONG.**

LET'S  
GIVE 'EM  
THE WOIKS,  
BIG IRON!

**KNUCKLES  
O'SHAUGHNESSY,  
DEAD-END KID SPIRIT  
OF VENGEANCE.**

**GRANDMASTER  
WONG, CHINA'S  
MIGHTIEST  
HERO, MASTER  
OF SHAOLIN  
HUNG GA AND  
OF THE ELEVENTH  
SPECIAL FIST:**

**THE DRUNKEN  
DRAGON FIST.**

BARE-KNUCKS  
AND THE OL' HELLFIRE  
HUMDINGER!

YOUSE  
DEVIL-FIENDIN'  
MUGS DON'T STAND  
A CHANCE AGAINST THE  
TOUGHEST COUPLA  
**SUPER-PALOOKAS**  
THIS SIDE OF--





MEPHISTO!  
GIVE IT UP! YOU  
CAN'T STOP WHAT'S  
COMING FOR  
YOU!

YOU  
CAN'T STOP  
ME!



HEH...

WHO SAYS  
I WANT TO,  
BRANDY?



WE ARE HUGE ADMIRERS,  
SHIFU. MAY WE JUST  
SAY, IT WAS A  
PLEASURE TO WATCH  
YOU WORK.

HEY, WHAT  
AM I, *FRIED  
BALONEY* OVER  
HERE?



HER  
BLOOD IS HOT  
LIKE THE SUN. HER  
COURAGE IS AS  
STRONG AS IRON.

CAN  
WE GO  
ALREADY?



66 MILLION  
YEARS AGO.

"WE ARE...  
OFFICIALLY  
LOST."



LOST WITHIN OUR  
EARTH'S TIMELINE, WE  
JUST OVERTOOK OUR  
TARGET BY A GOOD  
65 MILLION YEARS.

MEPHISTO'S  
MEDDLING WITH  
HISTORICAL EVENTS  
IS CREATING  
**INTERFERENCE**,  
SCRAMBLING OUR  
TIME JUMPS.

WE CAN'T  
KEEP PLAYING  
MEPHISTO'S GAME.  
WE'LL BE CHASING  
HIM THROUGH THE  
ERAS FOR ALL  
ETERNITY.

WHAT CHOICE  
DO WE HAVE? IF  
WE DON'T STOP HIM,  
HE COULD UNRAVEL  
OUR OWN EXISTENCE  
RIGHT BEFORE  
OUR EYES.

MAYBE  
THEY COULD  
USE YOUR OPINION  
OVER THERE. I  
KNOW YOU'VE  
GOT ONE.

THEY NEVER  
WANTED ME OR  
MY OPINION ON  
THIS MISSION. I'M  
ONLY HERE BECAUSE  
THE CELESTIAL  
SAW THE TRUTH.

THE ONLY  
TRUTH I SEE  
IS THAT YOU'RE  
GONNA **BURN**  
YOURSELF OUT IF  
YOU TRY TO KEEP  
UP THIS PACE.







OR MAYBE THAT'S YOUR PLAN.

YOU'RE THE LADY WHO SEES ALL OUR **DEATH-BALLS**, RIGHT? SO YOU TELL ME, **VALKYRIE**.

I'M THE LADY WHO BEAT DEATH INTO **REMISSION**, ONE CHEMO SESSION AT A TIME. WHOSE DAY JOB IS WORKING IN A **MORGUE**.

THAT WE'RE ALL A BUNCHA **MAYFLIES**?

THAT NOTHING IN ALL THE REALMS OR HEAVENS IS MORE PRECIOUS THAN **LIFE**. ALL THE MORE PRECIOUS BECAUSE OF HOW GLORIOUSLY **INSIGNIFICANT** WE MIGHT SEEM TO BE.

NOTHING IS MORE FRAGILE AND YET RESILIENT. MORE EXCRUCIATING AND BEAUTIFUL, ALL AT ONCE.

I'M NOT AFRAID TO DIE.

YOU MAKE THAT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR. NOW TRY NOT BEING AFRAID TO **LIVE**.

ASK **MEPHISTO'S** SPIDERS OVER THERE IF I LOOKED AFRAID?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN PUNCHING THINGS.

AND WHO SPENDS HER FREE TIME FERRYING DEAD SOULS TO THE GREAT BEYOND. SO I'M LITERALLY **SURROUNDED** BY DEATH EVERY WAKING MOMENT.

AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT'S **TAUGHT** ME, **STARBRAND**?

EVERYTHING HAS A PLACE IN THE AFTERLIFE, NO MATTER HOW SMALL. EVEN THOSE **MAYFLIES** YOU MENTIONED. THE ONES THAT DON'T LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO GROW A MOUTH.

YOU KNOW WHAT'S ALWAYS ON THEIR TINY LITTLE MINDS, AS I'M FERRYING SWARMS OF THEM TO THE INSECT **NETHER-REALM**?

"I SURE WISH I COULD'VE TASTED SOME **NECTAR** WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE."









"THE METEOR THAT WIPED  
OUT THE DINOSAURS. THAT'S  
HOW THE STARBRAND FIRST  
CAME TO EARTH.

"THAT'S HOW THIS *T. REX*  
GOT HIS POWERS AND  
BECAME THE PLANET'S FIRST  
PROTECTOR. THAT'S HOW..."



THAT'S  
HOW HE  
OUTLIVED...

...EVERYTHING  
HE'D EVER  
KNOWN.

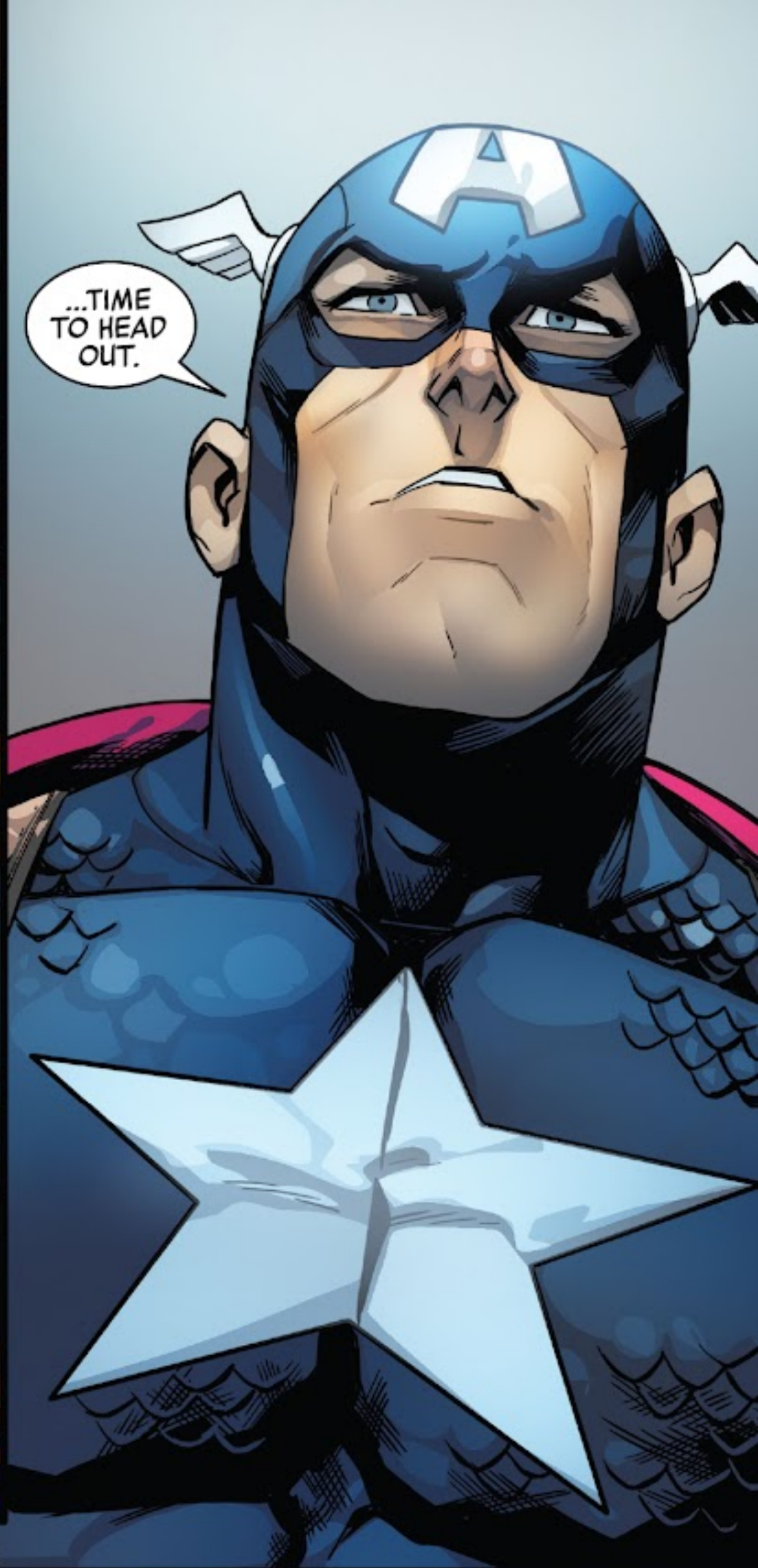




I'M LUCKY,  
HE SAYS, BECAUSE  
I HAVE...OTHERS  
LIKE ME.

I  
HAVE...

AVENGERS...



...TIME  
TO HEAD  
OUT.



BRANDY?

JUST A  
FEW MORE  
MINUTES,  
CAP.

I MEAN,  
WE'VE GOT A  
TIME MACHINE,  
RIGHT?



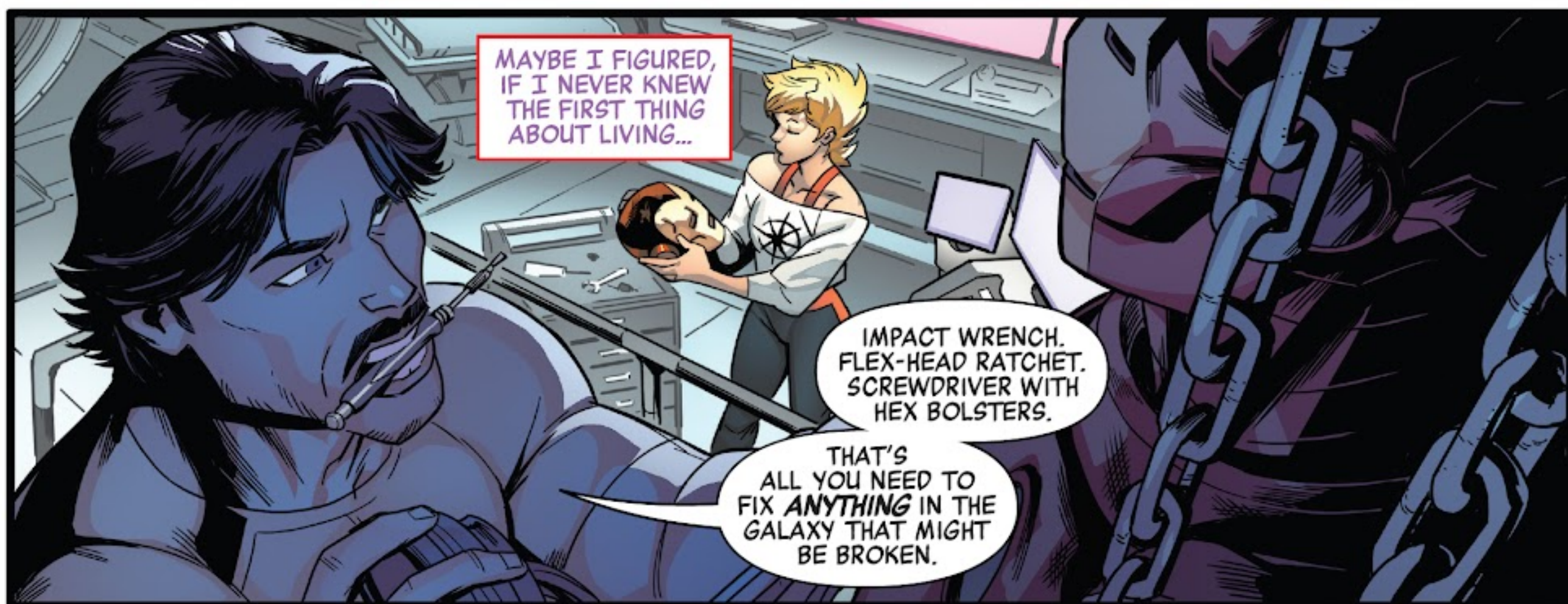
SO  
WHAT'S OUR  
HURRY?

WE SHARE OUR  
THOUGHTS THROUGH  
THE BRAND.

HE WANTS TO KNOW  
WHAT THE WORLD  
WILL BECOME, WHAT  
HIS SACRIFICE WILL  
HELP CREATE.

HE WANTS TO  
KNOW WHAT MY  
PEOPLE ARE LIKE.









BUT MAYBE DYING SHOULD NEVER BE EASY. ESPECIALLY NOT FOR PEOPLE LIKE ME.

THAT'S CASSIOPEIA. NOW, THERE YOU'LL FIND MY **THIRD** FAVORITE STAR.



LIFE ISN'T A GIFT. THERE'S NOBODY WHO HANDS IT TO YOU.



IT HAS TO BE **TAKEN**.

YOU COULD TELL SHE WAS A FIGHTER. AND SHE WON THAT FIGHT. EVEN THOUGH...SHE DIDN'T MAKE IT.

YOUR **MOTHER** WON HER FIGHT BY BRINGING **YOU** INTO THIS WORLD.



LIFE HAS TO BE CARVED OUT OF THE CHAOS AND NOTHINGNESS.

BECAUSE OF **YOU**, SOMEDAY, THERE'LL BE GODS AND VIBRANIUM AND SOMETHING CALLED KUNG FU MOVIES THAT I'D REALLY LIKE TO SEE AND...AND...

...AND MY MOTHER. WAIT'LL YOU HEAR WHAT **SHE** WAS LIKE.





LIFE IS ONE  
HELL OF A  
FIGHT.

IT JUST HELPS TO  
KNOW WHAT YOU'RE  
FIGHTING FOR.

MEPHISTO  
HAS GUNMEN IN  
THE CLOUDS! HE'S  
TARGETING THE  
WILD WEST  
PHOENIX!

MEPHISTO  
IS MINE!

BRANDY,  
WAIT!

**1868.**  
**THE AMERICAN WEST.**



GUUGH!

IT HELPS TO  
KNOW WHERE  
TO PUNCH.



HA! YOU  
HAVEN'T LEARNED  
A THING, HAVE YOU?  
STILL JUST A  
FRIGHTENED  
CHILD!



A FEW WEEKS  
AGO, YEAH, I  
WAS SLEEPING  
IN A CRIB.

BUT I  
DON'T SLEEP  
ANYMORE!





HRRGGH!

WHAT...  
WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING?

GAARGGH!!!

GUURGH!

HA HA! YES!  
**PUNCH AWAY,**  
YOU FOOL! YOU KNOW  
NOT WHAT YOU  
DO, CHILD!

BELIEVE  
ME, I  
KNOW.

I KNOW  
WHAT I WAS  
BORN TO DO.





I AM THE  
STARBRAND.



THAT'S THE  
ONLY NAME  
I'VE EVER HAD.



MY MOTHER  
DIDN'T LIVE LONG  
ENOUGH TO GIVE  
ME ANOTHER.



NOT EVERYONE  
GETS TO BE AROUND  
AS LONG AS THOR.



SOMETIMES YOU'RE  
JUST A MAYFLY  
SURROUNDED BY GODS.



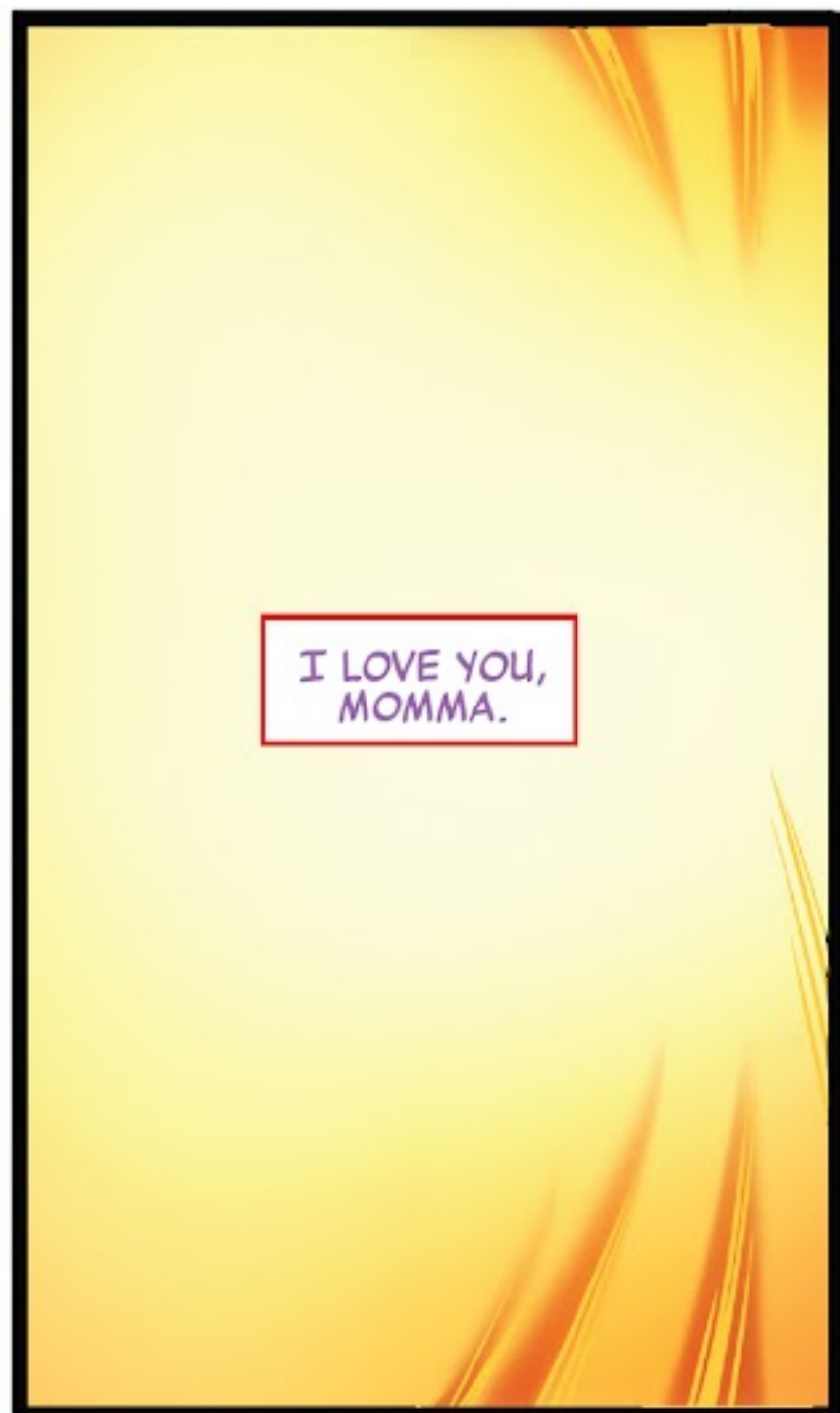
BUT MY MOTHER  
LIVED LONG  
ENOUGH TO MAKE  
A DIFFERENCE.



TO LEAVE  
A MARK.



WHAT MORE  
CAN ANYONE  
ASK FOR?



I LOVE YOU,  
MOMMA.





WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

I WAS GUNNING IT OUT WITH SOME COWBOYS AND THEN...

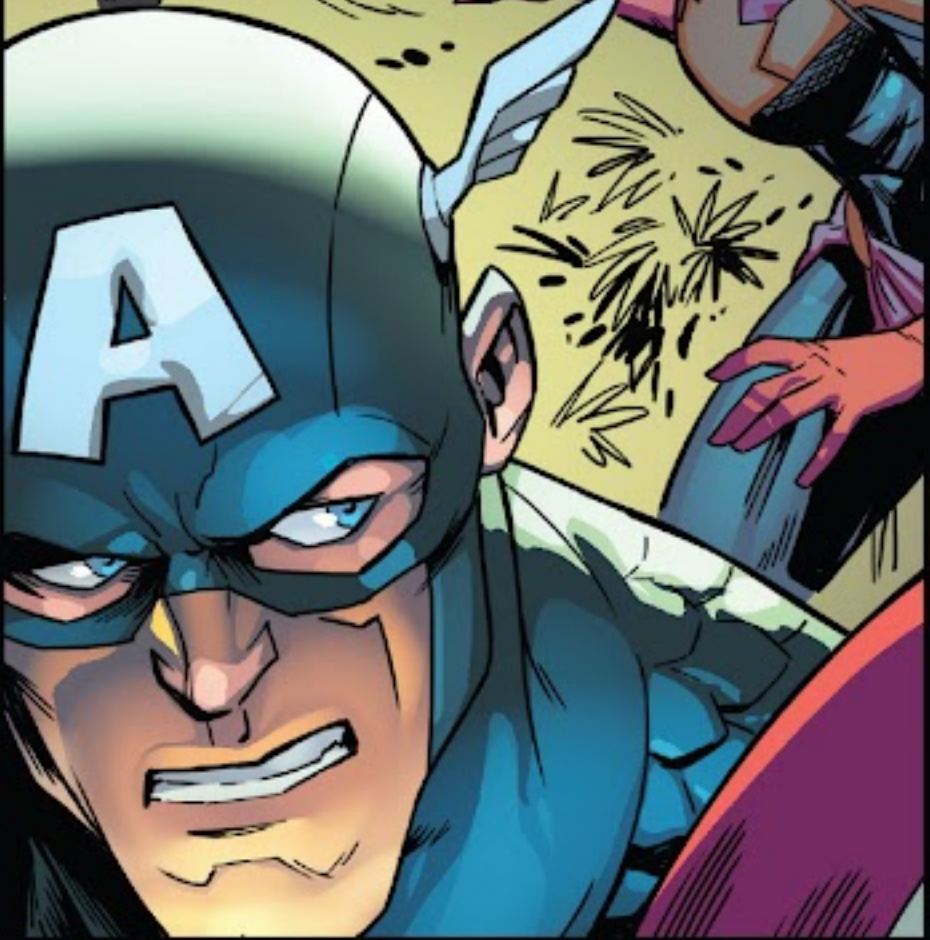
WHERE ARE WE? WHAT TIME PERIOD IS THIS?

CARBON READINGS SHOW...

WE'RE HERE. THE TARGET ERA.

THE PREHISTORIC GENESIS POINT.

BUT HOW...?



IT WAS STARBRAND. SHE WENT AFTER MEPHISTO.

SHE UNLEASHED THE FULL EXTENT OF HER POWER.

OH NO. WHERE IS SHE?

BRANDY!

IT WAS EASY.



I JUST... PUNCHED OUR WAY HERE.

BRANDY?

BUT MEPHISTO... HE'S NOT FINISHED. SO... I THINK YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS... WHAT HAPPENS NOW...





AVENGERS  
ASSEMBLE.

A FEW WEEKS AGO,  
I WAS SLEEPING IN  
A CRIB.

NOW I'M HERE,  
AT THE CRADLE  
OF THE WORLD.

WITH EARTH'S  
MIGHTIEST  
HEROES.

AND ONE LAST  
CHANCE TO SAVE  
ALL OF REALITY.

FEEL LIKE I'VE  
STILL GOT A  
COUPLE GOOD  
PUNCHES LEFT  
IN ME.

I PLAN ON  
MAKING THEM  
COUNT.





# THE AVENGERS

EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES

#62



## THE CONCLUSION OF HISTORY'S MIGHTIEST HEROES!

The Avengers' epic quest through the darkest and weirdest corners of time comes to an end with an issue that focuses on the prehistoric forefather of all things dark and weird in Marvel history: Earth's very first Sorcerer Supreme. Prepare to see all of history through the eyes of Agamotto.

Avengers Assemble! Email us at [MHEROES@MARVEL.COM](mailto:MHEROES@MARVEL.COM) and mark your messages "Okay to Print" for a chance to see them answered in future issues!



